## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellant(s): David R. Payne, Gerald A. Stangl,

Norman E. Stevens, and Michael F.

Gard

Serial No.: 10/617,975

Filed: July 12, 2003

For

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

AUTOMATICALLY DRILLING AND BACKREAMING A

HORIZONTAL BORE UNDERGROUND

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Group No.: 3671

Examiner: Raymond W. Addie

Att'v Dkt. No. 2380-561

Customer No.: 28839

Confirmation No.: 4897

Appeal No.: 2009-014218

## STATUS INOUIRY

More than *three years* have passed since the filing of the Appellant's Brief in the above-referenced application on *December 28, 2007*. The last communication received from the Office since the time of filing the Appellant's Brief is the Docketing Notice mailed August 25, 2009.

Kindly advise the undersigned of the present status of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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